

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph after the title with the following amended paragraph:

-- CROSS-RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a divisional application based on US Application No. 09/529,919, filed April 21, 2000, now US Patent No. 6,759,137, entitled "Magneto-Optical Recording Medium, Manufacturing Method Thereof and Magneto-optical Data Recording and Playback Device" in the name of inventors Akinori Furuya, Hiroshi Yoshikawa, Takaya Tanabe, Manabu Yamamoto, Toshifumi Ohkubo, Laurent Bouet, Philippe Tailhades, Corine Despax-Bonningue, Albel Rousset, commonly assigned herewith. --